

## NATION

## OFF THE cuff

As women in Papua and New Guinea and the world celebrated International Women's Day this week, plus the holding of a national women's forum in Port Moresby, *The National* asked people which women issues the Government should address immediately. Here is what they said:



**ADAM WILSON**, East New Britain: Domestic violence should be addressed immediately by the Government. I have seen many victims suffer and as a man, I think women deserve more. They are valued. Without women, families would collapse.



**DESSIE KERINA**, East New Britain: Violence against women should be immediately addressed by the Government because men think that they are the head of the family and can do whatever they want.



**DORA KEGEMO**, Eastern Highlands: I want the Government to check on the work force in every department to identify women capable of taking up senior positions. This is not happening. Many capable women have been overlooked by men.



**ESTHER ALMAN**, East New Britain: The mobile phone issue (communication technology) should be addressed immediately by the Government to help solve women issues.



**FOGGY KOBEGE**, Eastern Highlands: Government should know that women who are unemployed and create institutions to train women. Violence against women happens in towns as I have experienced as a policeman.



**CHRISTINE KAN-GI**, Manus: NGOs are standing up to make awareness on violence against women. As a victim of this violence, I think the Government should work with NGOs and create awareness and invite more men to attend.



**GREG BIANG**, 20, Madang: The Government should increase capacity for women in small businesses because many mothers want to sell goods and clothes to earn money.



**JACKIE JIMLAKE**, East Sepik: I want the Government to enforce the laws on violence against women because I feel angry when helpless women are beaten for no good reasons.



**JONATHAN DEGE**, Sirabu: Women have their own needs and the Government should provide ways for them to achieve these. There must be more trainings and workshops to educate more women.



**MICHAEL NOAH**, Northern: Most unemployed women go into prostitution because they need money to look after their children. Government should engage them in small business activities to help them and their families.



**MELINDA KAPUS**, East Sepik: Women are always looking for ways to provide for their families. I want the Government to look after women's affairs in business, politics, social and religious activities so they can be confident to do what they want to.



**MICHAEL TIRANG**, East New Britain: Domestic violence against women must be addressed immediately by the Government. Women need tougher laws to protect their rights.



**MINTAI DALA**, Goroka: I want the Government to amend the law on sexual offences to punish men who sexually abuse women and girls. The government must protect them from being sexually abused.



**JACKSON TETANG**, Madang: Many women are complaining about violence against them. The Government must protect their rights and punish men who beat their wives.

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**MARY TULASOI**, East New Britain: Basic services on health care for mothers should be prioritised and addressed immediately. Why are rural areas neglected?



**MICHAEL TU**, Eastern Highlands: Government must start small projects for mothers to help sustain them. They must not chase away mothers selling items on the street.



**NANCY SIMON**, Chimbu: I support my family with money I earn from selling betel nuts because I am unemployed. The betel nut ban must be lifted because it is not helping women.



**ROSE THOMAS**, Chimbu: Government should start piggery or poultry projects for women who are uneducated and unemployed. This will help reduce poverty.



**LISA LIU**, Enga: Women sell food and merchandise on the streets mainly to support their families. Government should build proper market facilities for them to sell their products.



**JENNETH SAMSON**, Western Highlands: Government must encourage women to participate in every aspect of life, including politics and business.

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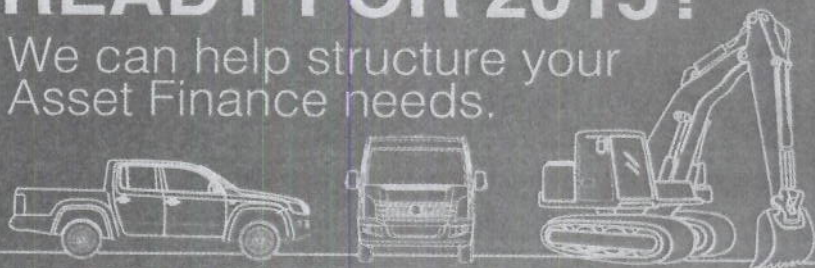
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